

 22nd Sunday of the Year (A) Mass Times and Intentions Divine Office – Psalter Week 2 		
Saturday 29 th August	5.30pm	Monica and Lawrence Cliffe
Sunday 30 th August	11.00am	Margaret Whittle
Tuesday 1 st September	9.30am	Karen and Kevin Grant
Wednesday 2 nd September	7.00pm	Anna Jones
Thursday 3 rd September	9.30am	Teresa Cash
Saturday 5 th September	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 6 th September	11.00am	Marie and Keith Wilson (Diamond Wedding Anniversary)

Sunday Liturgy

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Profession of Faith	Nicene	p.	11
Preface	Sundays VII	p.	67
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 3	p.	27

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for August

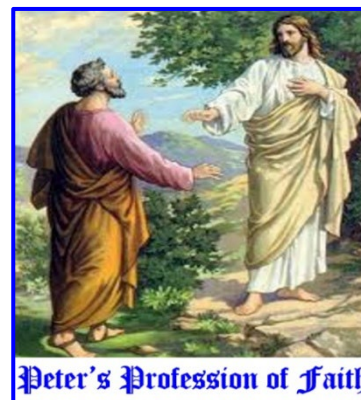


For evangelisation in the city. Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

August is the month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Her heart is venerated because it is the seat of her love, especially for her Divine Son, and for us after Jesus, as he died on the cross, declared her to be our Mother.

	The Roman Catholic Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians Portico Lane, Prescott, L34 2QT Administrator: Fr Andrew Rowlands VF Deacon: Rev Tom Simms Email: smaaa@rcaol.org.uk Tel. 0151 546 9687	
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22nd Sunday of the Year (A) 30th August 2026



Peter's Profession of Faith

In the First Reading, from the Prophet Jeremiah, we hear Jeremiah's lament of the results of his prophesying. Jeremiah didn't want to be a prophet, a spokesperson for God, but God chose him nevertheless. So the prophet later looks back on his calling as being "duped" or tricked into it. Further, he says that even after making up his mind not to prophesy a word, he was compelled to do so and could not keep it within. However, as we know, Jeremiah became one of God's greatest Prophets because he gave his very body, soul and spirit - his life.

The Responsorial Psalm is the prayer of a person who has given himself entirely to God and, although he has known difficult times in doing so, he sees the goodness of God sustaining him through it all.

In the Second Reading, from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, we hear Paul giving us the essence of today's theme, the giving of our body, soul and mind or spirit to God, again, not in a bloody sacrifice, but in doing the will of God regardless of how our own will might object. For those who can and will do this, the rewards are far greater than any mind can imagine.

The Gospel Reading is from Matthew. Again, this story follows that of last week where Peter so eloquently acknowledges Jesus as Lord and God. Immediately after that, Peter begins to rebuke Jesus for talking about having to suffer and die, but this is exactly what Jesus' mission on this earth was. Jesus was sent by the Father to be the perfect offering that humankind could not give or be. To prevent or dissuade Jesus from fulfilling this mission was the work of Satan. Even Jesus, as a human being, had a difficult time in accepting this mission, but in the end He gave the ultimate fiat, "Not my will but thy will be done." As we go through life there are many opportunities to make sacrifices or refuse them.



Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

Social Evening

Many thanks to all those who supported our last event. It raised a wonderfully generous £210.00. In addition sales of honey (from Virginia's own busy bees!) raised another very generous £110.00, giving a total of £320.00.

Our next Social Evening will be at 7.00pm on Tuesday 15th September in the Parish Hall.

Assisted Dying Bill

"Assist us the live, not to die." Please vote against the Bill at the Second Reading on 11th September. Cards are available in the porch which you can fill in and send to our MP, Marie Rimmer, at the House of Commons.

SHARe Knowsley

SHARe Knowsley is seeking donations of clean, good-quality men's clothing to support people seeking asylum who are rebuilding their lives with dignity. We particularly need everyday clothing, coats, shoes and trainers in all sizes. We also welcome toiletries and women's clothes. If you can help please contact Tim or Denise (07500 039 406).

Beginner's Yoga

Join us for Beginner's Yoga starting at 10.30am every Friday morning in the Parish Hall. It's a wonderful way to exercise and relax, and all monies raised will go towards the upkeep of our lovely garden and Parish Hall.

Evening Prayer with the Apostolic Nuncio

All are invited to assemble as our archdiocesan family at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Sunday 13 September at 3pm for the culmination of the Apostolic Nuncio's visit to the archdiocese. The celebration will take the form of Evening Prayer sung in the Cathedral. There will be a drinks reception after in the Crypt.

St Edmund Arrowsmith

The annual pilgrimage to the Holy Hand of St Edmund Arrowsmith takes place on Sunday 30th August at the Church of St Oswald and St Edmund Arrowsmith, Liverpool Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, WN4 9NP. Mass will be celebrated by at **3.00pm**, followed by Veneration of the Holy Hand. All are welcome!

Pilgrimage Mass in honour of Blessed Dominic Barberi

Mass in honour of Blessed Dominic Barberi will be celebrated at St Anne and Blessed Dominic, Monastery Road, Sutton, at 12.00pm on Monday 31st August. The Principal Celebrant will be Bishop Tom Neylon.

Feast Days This Week

Monday

St Aiden and the Saints of Lindisfarne – Born in Ireland, Aiden was originally the leader of the Iona mission (an island off the west coast of Scotland) before being consecrated Bishop and sent to Northumberland. He established a monastery on the tidal island of Lindisfarne and from there he undertook missionary journeys all over Northumberland. He built only a thatched wooden Church on Lindisfarne and lived an austere life, being more monk than bishop. He was known for his knowledge of the Bible, his learning, his eloquent preaching, his holiness and his kindness to the poor. He died in the year 651.

Blessed Richard Hurst – Born at Broughton, near Preston, he was a well to do yeoman farmer and a public recusant. He was arrested on trumped up charges and indicted for murder. A petition was sent to King Charles I supported by Queen Henrietta Maria but the government wanted to make an example of any recusant and managed to get a conviction. He was sentenced to death, and at the gallows he was informed that his life would be spared if he would swear allegiance to the King. As there were passages in the oath of allegiance to which he objected he was immediately executed. He is thought to be buried in the crypt in the previous parish of St Swithin, Gillmoss. He was beatified in 1929.

Wednesday

St Antoninus – An early Christian Martyr, he denounced the pagan practices of his fellow townspeople and went to live as a hermit for two years. He returned to his village and destroyed the pagan idols. He fled the village and built a church in Apamea, Syria, where he was murdered.

Thursday

St Gregory the Great – Born about the year 540, Gregory died in Rome in the year 604. While Prefect of Rome, he founded monasteries there and in Sicily and himself became a monk. Called to be a deacon of Rome by Pope Benedict I, he was then sent as papal legate to Constantinople. Elected Pope in the year 590, he reorganised Church life and administration in a time of crisis, sponsored liturgical reform, and initiated the evangelisation of the English. He sent St Augustine and his monks on their mission to England in the year 596, provided them with continuing advice and support, and sent reinforcements in the year 601. He is remembered also for his extensive writings on pastoral care, spirituality and morals, and for his self-designation as "servant of the servants of God", which successive Popes have continued to use. His role in Roman Liturgy was considerable and he is associated with Gregorian Chant.

Friday

St Cuthbert – An Anglo-Saxon monk and bishop in the Kingdom of Northumbria in the 7th Century. He was born in the year 634 at Dunbar and entered the monastery of Old Melrose, but soon after became a soldier for several years. He returned to Melrose and became Prior, before moving to Lindisfarne, known as Holy Island. He led a life of asceticism, and travelled throughout the country as a missionary. In 676 he adopted the solitary life and became a hermit, living in a cave on one of the Farne Islands south of Lindisfarne. In the year 684 he was elected Bishop of Lindisfarne but was reluctant to leave retirement and take up his charge. Two years later he returned to his cell on Inner Farne Island, where he eventually died. He was one of the most important medieval saints of England, and his remains are entombed at Durham Cathedral.

Saturday

St Teresa of Calcutta – Mother Teresa was born in the year 1910 and grew up in Albania, but after almost twenty years of teaching in India as a Loreto Sister, she felt called in 1950 to found the Missionaries of Charity to serve "the poorest of the poor". Witnessing to the dignity and honour of humble service and choosing to be the servant of the least, she became a model of mercy and an authentic icon of the Good Samaritan, earning global recognition. A friend of Pope Saint John Paul II, who beatified her, she was canonised in 2016 by Pope Francis.